

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action has been carefully considered. The issues raised are traversed and addressed below with reference to the relevant headings and paragraph numbers appearing under the Detailed Action of the Office Action.

Double Patenting

In view of the objection raised in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the Office Action, the Applicant is filing a terminal disclaimer herewith.

Specification

In paragraph 4 of the Office Action the Examiner has objected to the specification to the related applications being listed with attorney docket numbers. In view of this, the specification has been revised to include US serial numbers. We believe that this overcomes the objection raised in paragraph 4.

Claim rejections – 35 USC § 112

In response to the objections raised in paragraph 5 of the Office Action, the claims have been amended as required to overcome the Examiner's rejection. In particular, claim 4 has been amended to recite the bill instead of the form whilst claims 8, 10, 12 and 15 all state "the at least one parameter".

Claims 23 and 33 have been revised to recite "a person" and the term "substantially" has been removed from claim 20.

We therefore believe this overcomes the clarity objections raised.

Claim rejections – 35 USC § 102

In paragraph 7 of the Office Action the Examiner has objected to the claims as being anticipated by Perazza. We respectfully submit that this is not the case and in particular, believe there are a number of significant differences between the current claims and the cited prior art document.

In particular, claim 1 requires that the computer system receives indicating data from a sensing device regarding to identity of the bill and a position of the sensing device relative to the bill. In contrast to this, in Perazza, it is not disclosed that the barcode can be used to determine the position of the sensing device relative to the bill, or that the position of the sensing device is at any stage determined.

The only reference to position determination in Perazza occurs at col. 16, lines 41-42 which refers to the position of each barcoded entry on the bill. In particular, the position of the barcoded entry represents the respective biller. However, in this example, scanning is achieved using an optical scanner 78 shown in figure 8. The optical scanner will scan the document and use this to determine the position of the barcode. Thus, this does not determine indicating data representing a position of the sensing device relative to the bill,

when placed in an operative position relative to the bill, but instead only determines the position of the barcode.

This reflects the different operation of the device of the present invention and in particular the fact that the coded data is only sensed when the sensing device is placed in an operative position relative to the bill, at which point it senses the coded data and utilises this to determine its position relative to the bill. This is not performed in the system of Perazza which instead simply scans the document and locates the position of the barcode using this to indicate the identity of a biller.

In view of this, we believe that claim 1 is novel and also inventive over Perazza.

Turning now to claim 4, this describes the steps of receiving in a computer system data from a sensing device regarding at least one parameter and regarding movement of the sensing device relative to the bill. Again, Perazza does not describe determining movement of a sensing device relative to the bill and in particular, does not described determining movement of the sensing device based on coded data provided on the bill.

In view of this, we do not believe that Perazza is relevant to the novelty and inventive step of claim 4.

Turning now to claim 5, this document describes receiving the computer system data from a sensing device regarding an identity of the person. Whilst in the identity of the bill payer is determined in Perazza, this is determined from coded data provided on the bill. In contrast to this, in the current claim 5 the sensing device contains data regarding the identity of the person and this is not therefore determined from the coded data provided on the bill. Accordingly, this allows bills to be issued and paid by any party with the payer being determined based on the sensing device used to interact with the bill. Again, this is not taught or suggested by Perazza.

In view of this, we believe that the independent claims 1, 4 and 5 are novel and inventive over the cited prior art.

For similar reasons, we also believe that the claims 29, 32 and 33 are also novel and inventive over Perazza.

In the event that the Examiner is minded to maintain objections against the independent claims, we would highlight that the dependent claims also show a number of inventive feature which are not described anywhere in these cited prior art.

For example, Perazza does not describe the parameter being a text parameter, as set out in claims 12 and 13.

CONCLUSION

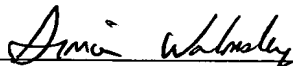
In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the objections and claim rejections have been successfully traversed and addressed. The amendments do not involve adding any information that was not already disclosed in the specification, and therefore no new matter is added. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the claims 1 to 47, and the application as a whole with these claims, are allowable, and a favourable reconsideration is therefore earnestly solicited.

Very respectfully,

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